

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **08-JUL-2012** TIME: **1030** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **GOM Shelf LLC**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR: **Performance Energy Service, LLC**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

3. OPERATOR/CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR
ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

4. LEASE: **00175**

AREA: **GI** LATITUDE: **29.000682**

BLOCK: **43** LONGITUDE: **-89.858304**

5. PLATFORM: **AS-SEP**

RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY: ☐ EXPLORATION (POE)
☒ DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION
(DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:

☐ HISTORIC INJURY

☒ REQUIRED EVACUATION 1
☐ LTA (1-3 days)
☒ LTA (>3 days) 1
☐ RW/JT (1-3 days)
☐ RW/JT (>3 days)
☐ Other Injury

☐ FATALITY
☐ POLLUTION
☐ FIRE
☐ EXPLOSION

LWC ☐ HISTORIC BLOWOUT
☐ UNDERGROUND
☐ SURFACE
☐ DEVERTER
☐ SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION ☐ HISTORIC ☐ >\$25K ☐ <=\$25K

☐ STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
☐ CRANE
☐ OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
☐ DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
☐ INCIDENT >\$25K
☐ H2S/15MIN./20PPM
☐ REQUIRED MUSTER
☐ SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
☒ OTHER **Failed Communication**

6. OPERATION:

☐ PRODUCTION
☐ DRILLING
☐ WORKOVER
☐ COMPLETION
☐ HELICOPTER
☐ MOTOR VESSEL
☐ PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
☒ OTHER **Construction**

8. CAUSE:

☐ EQUIPMENT FAILURE
☒ HUMAN ERROR
☐ EXTERNAL DAMAGE
☐ SLIP/TRIP/FALL
☐ WEATHER RELATED
☐ LEAK
☐ UPSET H2O TREATING
☐ OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
☐ OTHER

9. WATER DEPTH: **110** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **17** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: **W**
SPEED: **0** M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:
SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

On 8 July 2012, at approximately 10:30 hours, during construction operations, a third-party contractor, employed by Performance Energy Service (PES) was injured when he was struck by a plumbers plug. At the time of the incident, two PES contractors were in the process of removing the plumbers plug from a 20" process line. Contractor #1 began the pressure bleed-off process from the plug when thermal pressure caused the plug to eject and project approximately 9 feet, hitting the platform's support beam and striking contractor #2 in the right leg. The PES contractor failed to communicate with the GOM Shelf consultant prior to removing the plumbers plug. The contractor did not have a proper Job Safety Analysis (JSA) for this specific job scope that identified the potential threat of thermal pressure build-up, projectile hazards, body placement and safety warnings when working with plugs. The Injured Person (IP) was evacuated for medical evaluation and was diagnosed with a fractured tibia.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

A. Failure to check for thermal pressure. The build-up of thermal pressure in the 20" line caused the plumbers plug to eject.

19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

- A. Improper JSA for the job scope that failed to identify potential hazards.
- B. Failure to communicate with the GOM Shelf Consultant who could have overseen safety.
- C. Failure to read the warning labels for plug as the JSA should have directed.
- D. Personnel standing in a hazardous area that the JSA should have precluded.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Plug Information:

- A. The plug traveled 9' from the end of the flange opening to the support beam.
- B. The plug is 2' 11" in length, 12" diameter deflated, 24" inflated.
- C. The airline and support line to inflate and deflate the plug is 20' in length.
- D. The plug was completely inserted into the 20" diameter pipe.
- E. The 20" pipe had an open thread-o-let 9"-10" from flange opening.
- F. Plumbers plugs were ordered for this shut-in by another contractor (DII).

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

None

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

None

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

N/A

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The BSEE New Orleans District makes no recommendations to the Agency.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **YES**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

G-110 - Operation of removing plumbers plug was not conducted in a safe and workmanlike manner causing injury to personnel.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

24-JUL-2012

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Kimberly Criddle / Otho Barnes /
Darryl Williams /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

David J. Trocquet

APPROVED

DATE: **15-AUG-2012**

INJURY/FATALITY/WITNESS ATTACHMENT

☐ OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE

☒ CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE

☐ OTHER _____

☐ INJURY

☐ FATALITY

☒ WITNESS

NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

WORK PHONE:

TOTAL OFFSHORE EXPERIENCE:

YEARS

EMPLOYED BY:

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP CODE:

☐ OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE

☒ CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE

☐ OTHER _____

☒ INJURY

☐ FATALITY

☐ WITNESS

NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

CITY:

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